

Message Text

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64
ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00

NSC-05 /049 R

DRAFTED BY AF:EWMULCAHY:VRD

APPROVED BY AF:EWMULCAHY

S/S:O:DLMACK

S:WEGAN

AF/C:WLCUTLER

P:PMARTINEZ(INFO)

EUR:EROWELL

M:LEAGLEBURGER

----- 050281

P R 020152Z SEP 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207728 TOSEC 100428

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SREF, PO, AO, OVIP, CG

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - ANGOLA: MOBUTU REQUESTS US
AIRLIFT (S/S NO. 7517225)

FOR THE SECRETARY AND UNDERSECRETARY SISCO FROM MULCAHY,AF

1. IN SEPTEL DEPARTMENT IS TRANSMITTING TOSEC NOTE VERBALE
FROM ZAIRIAN EMBASSY TO WHICH FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER
BULA MANDUNGU ATTACHES HIGHEST PRIORITY. NOTE IS FORMAL
REQUEST FOR US HELP IN AIRLIFTING 400,000 WHITE PORTUGUESE
FROM ANGOLA TO ZAIRE FOR RESETTLEMENT PENDING LATER OPPOR-
TUNITY TO RETURN TO ANGOLA. NOTE INDICATES ZAIRIAN PLANS
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FOR RECEPTION AND RESETTLEMENT ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY.
PORTUGUESE HAVE BEEN APPROACHED AND WALDHEIM INFORMED.

2. IN FRAMING OUR RESPONSE TO THIS MESSAGE FOLLOWING

CONSIDERATIONS ARE RELEVANT:

A. PRO:

-- CONTAINS CLEAR AND UNDENIABLE HUMANITARIAN OVERTONES.
-- WOULD BE CHEAPER SOLUTION THAN LUANDA-LISBON AIRLIFT
-- WOULD PROBABLY BE WELCOMED BY SOME (BUT NOT MANY)
ANGOLAN WHITES.
-- WOULD PERMIT US TO SAY "YES" TO MOBUTU WHOSE
COOPERATION WE ARE SEEKING ON SEVERAL OTHER ISSUES.

-- WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO MOBUTU TECHNICAL EXPERTISE
HE REQUIRES IN SEVERAL CRITICAL FIELDS.

-- WOULD RETAIN RESERVOIR OF SKILLED PORTUGUESE IN
CENTRAL/SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR LATER UTILIZATION IN ANGOLA
OR ELSEWHERE.

- B. CON:

-- WOULD PARTIALLY NEGATE WESTERN INTEREST IN HAVING
WHITE REFUGEES RESETTLED IN PORTUGAL.
-- WOULD PROBABLY BE INEFFICIENTLY PLANNED AND
EXECUTED.
-- WOULD PROBABLY BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ALL BUT FEW
THOUSAND SETTLERS.
-- WOULD INSTALL HARD-TO-DIGEST BODY OF FREE-ENTER-
PRISE-MINDED SETTLERS IN MILITANT SOCIALIST ZAIRE.
-- WOULD PROBABLY ENTAIL LATER HEAVY COSTS FOR RE-
SETTLEMENT IN ANGOLA, PORTUGAL OR ELSEWHERE.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

AF BELIEVES WE NEED TAKE NO CONCRETE ACTION AT THIS
POINT UNTIL ZAIRE AND PORTUGAL HAVE THRASHED PROPOSITION
OUT BETWEEN THEMSELVES. WE BELIEVE ONLY A SMALL PERCEN-
TAGE OF ANGOLAN SETTLERS WILL OPT FOR ACCEPTANCE. HOWEVER,
US PARTICIPATION IN THIS HUMANITARIAN, MULTIRACIAL
ENDEAVOR WOULD PROBABLY ENTAIL FAIRLY SMALL COST, AND BE
GOOD FOR OUR IMAGE IN AFRICA. WHETHER PROJECT FLOATS OR
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NOT AF BELIEVES THAT A PROMPT AND SERIOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE AND THAT THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SHOULD
MAKE CLEAR THE PROPOSAL HAS RECEIVED YOUR PERSONAL
ATTENTION. EUR HAS NO OBJECTION.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

A. THAT YOU AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT (MULCAHY) TO
REPLY ORALLY TO COMMISSIONER BULA VIA THE ZAIRIAN CHARGE
ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

"SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS REVIEWED YOUR GOVERNMENT'S
PROPOSAL TO ASSIST IN THE RESETTLEMENT OF PORTUGUESE
REFUGEES FROM ANGOLA. THE SECRETARY IS IMPRESSED BY THE

GENEROSITY OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
IN MAKING THIS IMPORTANT HUMANITARIAN OFFER, AND HE
BELIEVES IT DESERVES MOST SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY ALL
PARTIES CONCERNED. THE UNITED STATES, FOR ITS PART,
WILL BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS ASSISTING IN AN AIRLIFT OF THE
REFUGEES ONCE THE MODALITIES OF THE RESETTLEMENT PLAN HAVE
BEEN WORKED OUT BETWEEN ZAIRIAN AUTHORITIES AND THE
PORTUGUESE."

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

B. ALTERNATIVELY, THAT YOU AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO
REPLY TO BULA VIA THE ZAIRIAN CHARGE ALONG THE FOLLOWING
LINES:

- "SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS NOTED WITH INTEREST YOUR
GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL TO ASSIST IN THE RESETTLEMENT OF
PORTUGUESE REFUGEES FROM ANGOLA. HE WOULD LIKE TO CON-
SIDER THE PROPOSAL FURTHER BEFORE MAKING A DEFINITIVE
REPLY."

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

CLEARANCES: M-EAGLEBURGER, EUR/WE-ROWELL, S-EGAN INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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